

1918 - SUBMARY - 1953

1918-1920 - Ernest A. Jacobsen 1920-1923 - Ralph F. Nilsson Teachers:

1923-1937 - David A. Broadbent (Heber Rasband helped teach for two years) 1937-1941 - Wendell M. Rigby & Royden C. Braithwaite 1941-1942 - Wendell M. Rigby & Harold M. Smith

1942-1943 - Lynn R. Webb & Harold H. Smith 1943-1952 - Harold Smith & George L. Strebel 1952-1953 - George L. Strebel & LaMar C. Berrett

Students Total - 8250 Senior Seminary Students (1918-1953)

Wasatch Stake Seminary History May 25, 1953

George Strebel, Principal

Seminary-Chamber of Commerce Information Service.

This project was undertaken as a joint effort to supply the touring public which might come to our community with information about our community and about our church. The prime interest of the Seminary was the teaching of the Gospel as the opportunity might present itself.

The Chamber of Commerce supplied the printed information on the Valley itself, the pictures which were shown, advertising for the program and gave whatever assistance they could. The Seminary in turn furnished the building, the equipment, and the personell to carry out the program. Lectures were held nightly in the ground floor of the Seminary building except on Junday. These lectures were characterized by a short illustrated lecture on the various aspects of the County and then the period was given over to open discussion of whatever matters the guests desired to discuss. These lectures were conducted by Jess Walker, Lincoln Rasband, Harold Smith and George Strebel. Each of these men took an evening starting at seven in the evening and staying as late as was necessary. Even though the discussions were designed to answer the questions of the guests, these discussions almost without exception afforded a fine opportunity to explain some of the phases of our gospel. Many nights we were without guests but on the whole the project seemed to have been quite successful in that we contacted an estimated two hundred ad fifty persons during the season.

In an effort to encourage ore of the tourists who stopped in the community to attend our lectures, we tried for about two weeks at the end of the season to have one of our Seminary Graduates contact these people in their cabins or rooms and invite them to our meeting. The effort seemed to have added to the attendance a few who might otherwise not have attended. The general reaction of those who came to see us was favorable and often very flattering.

In view of the experience of the past year, the Seminary faculty would strongly urge that the program be undertaken again this year. The opportunity of having the people who contact the tourists be members of the church rather than merely members of the chamber of commerce who might feasibly not represent the church to the best advantage, would be sufficient to encourage its establishment again this year. We would suggest that the lecturers be chosen with special reference to their ability and how well they are grounded in the gospet, that they mey represent the church to the best of advantage. If the same arrangement is entered into as last year, the church will have sole control of the individuals choses. It would seem advisable that the program should be placed before the public as an activity of the Chamber of Commerce rather than as an activity of the church and then take advantage of our opportunities to intelligently answer their questions about the church when they come here. If the program is presented as a program of the church, the average tourist is a little afraid it will be a propagandizing effort for the church. Because of the success which we had in a personal contact with the *tourists and inviting them to attend, we would suggest that plans be made this year to have, in conjunction with the Chamber of Go rerce, some of the graduates of the Seminary be given the responsibility of contacting every guest who stays in our community and invite them to come to the lecture. There has been a suggestion made that more lecturers be provided. This matter might bear investigating.